

What is claimed is:

1. A focus detection device, comprising:

a plurality of line sensors, each having a plurality of pixels, said line sensor photoelectrically converting and  
5 integrating light from a photographic object received by each of said pixels so as to output the received light as an image signal;

a plurality of monitor sensors provided adjacent to respective said line sensors, each of said monitor sensors  
10 monitoring an integrated value of said respective line sensors;

an output terminal for externally outputting a monitor signal which is output from each of said monitor sensors and said image signal which is output from each of said line  
15 sensors; and

an output selection device for selectively outputting any one of said monitor signal and said image signal from a common said output terminal.

2. The focus detection device according to claim 1,  
20 further comprising a control device which operates said output selection device via an externally input control signals so that any one of the monitor signal of each of said monitor sensors and the image signal of each of said line sensors is selectively output from said output terminal.

25 3. The focus detection device according to claim 1,

further comprising a monitor selection device which selects the monitor signals of said monitor sensors in a predetermined order so as to output the selected monitor signals to said output selection device.

5           4. The focus detection device according to claim 2, wherein said control device allows said monitor selection device to select said monitor signals of said monitor sensors in the predetermined order and outputs said monitor signals to said output selection device which in turn outputs the  
10 selected monitor signals to said output terminal, between a start of an integration operation of said line sensor and said monitor sensor and end of the integration operation; and

          wherein said control device reads out said image signal from each of said line sensors and outputs the readout image  
15 signal via said output selection device from said output terminal after termination of the integration operation.

          5. The focus detection device according to claim 4, wherein the control device selects a combination of said line sensors and said monitor sensors to be used, based on the  
20 externally input signal, wherein the selected line sensors and the monitor sensors perform the integration operation.

          6. The focus detection device according to claim 5, comprising a memory which stores a plurality of selection modes for the combination of said line sensors and said  
25 monitor sensors to be used;

wherein when a signal specifying said selection mode is externally input to the control device, said control device allows said line sensor and said monitor sensor corresponding to said selection mode to perform the integration operation.

5           7. The focus detection device according to claim 4, wherein each of said line sensors includes sensor areas designating a standard sensor area and a reference sensor area, each of said standard sensor area and said reference sensor area being further designated with a plurality of sub-areas;

10           wherein at least one of said monitor sensors is provided for each the standard area; and

          wherein said control device controls said monitor sensors in each of said sub-areas.

15           8. The focus detection device according to claim 1, wherein said focus detection device is provided in a focus detection module of a camera.

20           9. The focus detection device according to claim 2, wherein said control device inputs control signals from a second control device, which is provided in a camera body of said camera, in order to select said line sensors and said monitor sensors.